

LONG TERM PAVEMENT PERFORMANCE PROGRAM DIRECTIVE



For The Technical Direction Of The LTPP Program



Program Area: Seasonal Monitoring Directive Number: SM-7

Date: March 14, 1995 Supersedes: SM-2

Subject: Data Collection Guidelines Under Less Than Ideal
Conditions

Existing guidelines for the collection of seasonal monitoring data assume ideal conditions; however, it is almost certain that less than ideal conditions will be encountered by RCO staff at various times throughout the year. Problems related to safety, weather, equipment and/or traffic control will undoubtedly make field activities difficult or impossible at times.

Criteria below should be used by the RCOC staff as a guide for adjusting field activities when required. Options should be discussed with FHWA/LTPP Division Office staff for approval.

Level 1 -- Normal Monitoring

Problems: None; ideal situation with no problems related to safety, weather, equipment, or traffic control.

Data Collection

Level: Data collection done as outlined in "LTPP SEASONAL MONITORING PROGRAM: INSTRUMENTATION INSTALLATION AND DATA COLLECTION GUIDELINES."

Level 2 -- Reduced FWD Cycles

Problems: Short traffic control due to limited daylight or conflicts (plowing snow, etc.) and delayed or interrupted FWD testing because of weather or equipment problems.

Data Collection

Level: Reduced FWD test cycles (minimum of one cycle); ONSITE normal; reduced MOBILE (minimum of one data set).

Level 3 -- No FWD Testing

Problems: Too cold for FWD to operate (see LTPP Directive FWD-5, Special Provisions for Cold Weather FWD Testing), reduced traffic control, or FWD break down.

Note: "Too cold for FWD" is defined as temperatures at or below -10° C.

Data Collection

Level: No FWD testing; ONSITE normal; reduced MOBILE (minimum of one data set). Reduced traffic control is possible since work is done on the shoulder. This level may be planned in advance, if FWD testing is not critical.

Note: If temperature drops below -20° C, do not collect MOBILE data to minimize risk of damage to equipment (i.e., MOBILE unit and TDR/resistivity probe cables).

Level 4 -- No Monitoring Possible

Problems: Extreme weather making conditions unsafe (electrical storms, blizzard, etc.); extreme cold increasing risk of equipment damage (cables break instead of bend, LCD displays do not function, etc.); too cold for diesel van to operate; and no traffic control.

Note: "Extreme cold" is defined as temperatures at or below -30° C.

Data Collection

Level: No monitoring possible

Under no circumstances should the up-load of ONSITE data at a given site exceed 60 days between successive visits. Depending on schedule and forecast conditions, operators may standby until at least Level 3 monitoring is possible and adjust the remainder of the seasonal testing schedule as required. If FWD testing is critical (e.g., spring thaw, linking with profiler surveys, etc.), operators must standby until at least Level 2 monitoring is possible.

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